Clerks attached to the Panchayat Courts—appointment of.

212. **Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan**.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether it was the Panchayat concerned or the Head of the Panchayat Department that made the appointment of Panchayat clerks attached to the Panchayat courts now functioning;

(b) whether the same authority as in (a) is to make the appointments for the eight courts proposed to be opened from the beginning of next year?

Mr. P. V. Raphael.—(a) The clerks of all the existing Panchayat courts excepting those of Nemmara and Ayilore were appointed by the Panchayats concerned. The clerks of the Nemmara and Ayilore courts were appointed in the first instance by the Registrar as they had to be got trained by the time the courts were constituted.

(b) In the case of the 8 group courts the clerks will be appointed in the first instance by the Registrar as that will be conducive to greater efficiency.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—With reference to (b) may I know what exactly is meant by 'in the first instance.'?

Mr. P. V. Raphael.—First appointments.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—How is it that the appointments in the first instance to be made by the Registrar is said to be conducive to greater efficiency?

Mr. P. V. Raphael.—In this way, that these clerks, etc., will have to be appointed and got trained for work in the courts when they are formed. Therefore their preliminary appointment will be conducive to the efficient working of the courts.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—What sort of training?

Mr. P. V. Raphael.—It is proposed to send them to civil courts for training.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Is it absolutely necessary?

Mr. P. V. Raphael.—By the time the group courts are appointed the clerks should be ready to take up the work.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Will not the group courts be formed early next year?

Mr. P. V. Raphael.—They will be formed in Vrischigam and when they are formed the clerks must be there.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—What is the harm in giving the right of appointments to the Panchayats?

Mr. P. V. Raphael.—It is a new institution that is being constituted and they must come into being.

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